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December 4, 1903

*Conveyance of disease from the east to the west coast of South America
and to the west coast of Mexico.*

In the report contributed by Dr. Eduardo Moore, upon the public health of the Republic of Chile, contained in the Transactions of the First General International Sanitary Convention of the American Republics, held at Washington, D. C., December 2, 3, and 4, 1902, Senate Document, No. 169, Fifty-seventh Congress, second session, page 33, under Section XVII, the following statement occurs:

In the current year a suspicious case of the bubonic plague arrived at the port of Valparaiso on board one of the trans-Atlantic steamers which had touched at the ports of Rio de Janeiro and Montevideo, and that had made a voyage of eleven days, and said steamer was not allowed to land or enter in our first port of entry, namely, Punta Arenas, and in that of Coronel. Said vessel was permitted to enter the port of Valparaiso, where the vessel as well as the merchandise was thoroughly disinfected, and the patient was immediately removed to an improvised floating lazaretto.

Section XXVIII also sets forth this danger:

The danger to which our country is exposed on account of contagious diseases prevailing in the neighboring or near Republics on the north is from yellow fever from Ecuador, Colombia, Central America, and Mexico; intermittent fever from said Republics and from Peru; leprosy from all said Republics and the Peruvian wart from the last-mentioned Republic, although it has never been proved in the latter country to have an established focus outside of the hot valleys. It is known that our soldiers, a small number of whom contracted the disease in the valley of Orolla during the Chilo-Peruvian-Bolivian war, did not leave any focus of the disease in the Republic, and some of the cases were not fatal, which is indeed a rare exception in this terrible disease. On the Atlantic board or side the danger is also not so great, on account of the distance; but Brazil is greatly feared because of yellow fever, leprosy, beri-beri, the bubonic plague, ainhum, and malaria. Uruguay is feared only on account of leprosy. The Argentine Republic is feared on account of the bubonic plague, which at present prevails there, and on account of the exanthematic typhus imported from Europe.

Summary of work in Chinatown for the week ended November 28, 1903.

The following is received from Passed Assistant Surgeon Blue, under date of November 30, 1903:

Buildings reinspected	192
Rooms	1,259
Persons inspected	1,359
Sick	31
Sick prescribed for at Oriental Dispensary	8
Dead examined	7
Necropsies	4
Rats examined bacteriologically	10
Number showing pest infection	1
Places limed and disinfected	864
Times streets swept	3
Sewers flushed	16
Sewers rebaited with rat poison	18
Notices served to abate plumbing nuisances	15
Plumbing nuisances abated	10
Undergoing abatement	5
Total number of plumbing inspectors	95

Plague death at San Francisco bacteriologically confirmed.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., November 25, 1903.

WYMAN, Washington:

Diagnosis bacteriologically confirmed in case 110, published in plague table of Public Health Reports Nos. 20 and 27 as case 111, died November 12, 1903.

BLUE.